

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the *Ex Parte Quayle* Office Action dated June 7, 2006. For the following reasons, the application should be allowed and the case passed to issue. No new matter or considerations are introduced by this amendment. The amendment to the specification corrects the informalities noted by the Examiner.

Claims 13, 16-18, and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 13, 16-18, and 20 have been allowed. Claim 19 was objected to. Claim 19 has been canceled in this response. Claims 14 and 15 were previously canceled by Applicants. Claims 1-12 were canceled by the Examiner in the *Ex Parte Quayle* Office Action mailed June 7, 2006.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to because they include reference characters not mentioned in the written description. This objection is traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof respectfully requested.

In Figs. 6, 8, and 14, reference characters 11 and 13 refer to "a semiconductor surface layer 11 corresponding to mask portion 21a" and "a semiconductor surface layer corresponding to mask portion 21b," respectively. The specification has been amended at page 13, lines 17 and 19 to recite reference signs 13 and 11, respectively.

While Figs. 6 and 8 are referred to in the description of the sixth embodiment and Fig. 13 is referred to in the description of the eighth embodiment, it is clearly indicated in the written description that the eighth embodiment is a modification of the sixth embodiment. Thus reference characters 11 and 13 shown in Fig. 14 indicate the same regions as those shown in Figs. 6 and 8.

As regards reference character 26 in Fig. 16, reference character 26 is in the originally filed written description at page 16, line 32.

In accordance with the Examiner's recommendation, the specification has been amended to include the reference characters 11 and 13 shown in the drawings. In addition, reference character 26 has been shown to be in the originally filed written description. Therefore, the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claim 19 is objected to as being vague. This objection is traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof respectfully requested.

Claim 19 has been canceled, therefore, this objection is moot.

As all the objections have been addressed and the pending claims have been allowed, Applicants submit this application in condition for allowance.

In light of the above Amendments and Remarks, this application should be allowed and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding these remarks or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite prosecution of the application.

Application No.: 10/625,733

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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